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OGC HAS REVIEWED.

5 January 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Administration

SUBJECT: Instruction on Property Accountability  
Under Emergency Conditions

1. There is no legal objection to the procedures set forth in the attached draft. There is one aspect of the problem which is not specifically covered which the instruction might well refer to.

2. After accountability has been dropped and before it is re-established, if at all, there is still a responsibility on the appropriate officers to take such care of Government property as circumstances may permit to prevent unnecessary loss or improper conversion to personal use. We recommend inclusion of a reference to this responsibility, possibly as paragraph 5, as follows:

"5. Interim Responsibility.

After accountability has been dropped and prior to loss or destruction of or damage to the property as a result of the emergency, or prior to re-establishment of accountability, the chiefs of stations and sub-stations have the responsibility to take such steps as circumstances may permit to safeguard Government property and to see that it is put to proper official use."

LAWRENCE R. HOUSTON  
General Counsel

Attachment: Draft Instruction

LHHouston/ml1  
cc: Subject ..... 1. 514 Property Regulations  
Chrono 2. 315 Emergency Requirements

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